Country Day seniors are Just in Time for local youth

By TRICIA WARRENS

For the seniors of La Jolla Country Day, Wednesday, May 20, was the last day of class. Instead of fleeing campus, heading off into the last summer before college, they stayed for a barbecue and put together Ikea furniture for the past 5½ years. “Clearly, ensuring this beautification project for the past 5½ years is an intolerable disruption that is eroding neighborhood character. Many residents are calling for stricter rules, tighter enforcement and greater accountability over rentals, with some advocating a ban on the rentals from single-family neighborhoods. Short-term vacation rental reps are being built.”

City Council OKs funding for Children’s Pool facelift

By DAVE SCHWAB

City Council has approved $430,000 in funding in current city budget deliberations for better enforcement of existing rules governing their operation. That was the end result of deliberations May 29 among the committee’s four members — Lori Zapf, David Alvarez, Scott Sherman and Todd Gloria — following hours of public testimony for and against the vexing issue.

Coastal residents have increasingly come forward complaining that noise, partying, traffic and other problems caused at some troublesome rentals have become intolerable.

City Council’s Smart Growth and Land Use Committee directed staff to return with a new draft ordinance on short-term vacation rentals, better defining and more strictly controlling them, while also seeking funding in current city budget deliberations for better enforcement of existing rules governing their operation.

Minick pointed out proposed walkway improvements are a public-private partnership of the parks group and the City of San Diego Department of Park & Recreation.

“We of LJPB,” Minick said, “are especially grateful for the yeaslong encouragement and assistance toward completion of this goal from Council President Lightner and her staff and from the San Diego Park Department’s tireless team.”

Minick noted the Children’s Pool walkway improvements are a public-private partnership of the parks group and the City of San Diego Department of Park & Recreation.

“The Children’s Pool site is a greatly favored place to visit by multitudes of San Diegans as well as travelers throughout this country and the world,” said Phyllis Minick, chair of the parks group’s Beautification Committee, which has spearheaded the walkway beautification project for the past 5½ years. “Clearly, ensuring this access walkway’s safety, enlargement, pedestrian-traffic control and environmental improvement are benefits that serve a large audience.”

City Council land use committee requires tighter vacation rental controls

By DAVE SCHWAB

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AROUND THE BLOCK:
Of beauty, breakfasts, burgers and beers

By DAVE SCHWAB

The block in La Jolla Village bounded by Prospect Street on the west, Fay on the east, Silverado on the north and Kline on the south could be deemed “salon central.”

On this block, you can find an array of services, everything from nails and manicures/pedicures to spas.

There are also some wonderful lodgings within this section, such as The Bed and Breakfast Inn at La Jolla at 7753 Draper Ave. “We’re a bed and breakfast that’s been here since 1984,” said Margaret Fox, the establishment’s manager/innkeeper. “We pride ourselves on our breakfasts and our rooms.”

There are 15 rooms at the inn, which has wonderful outdoor spaces, like a courtyard in back. Fox said the average stay of visitors, from all over the United States and other countries, is two days. “We have fine dining you will not find elsewhere, which makes this an exceptional stay for all our guests, and they keep coming back,” Fox said.

Around the corner, at 830 Kline St., is Public House La Jolla. “Public House is one of the better places for a burger and a beer,” said Richard Walker, a block captain for La Jolla Village Merchants Association who knows the area well. Giuseppe Colesanti, a bartender at Public House, said, “We have the best craft-beer selection, with 300-plus bottles of beer and 40 drafts on tap.” He added you can get two-for-one burgers there on Thursdays. He cautioned, however, that “in summer it gets really crowded, so you have to get here early.”

Walker noted that “if you need to get something done to your clothes, you can take care of it for a reasonable price and in short order” at Arturo’s Tailor Shop, at 7760 Fay Ave. Of La Jolla Barber Shop, 7760 Fay Ave., Walker said that “the barber/owner is short of words but long on great service (free water), great haircuts and great value ($10).” Regarding SparkCycle, at 7777 Fay Ave., Suite G1, Walker commented, “New to La Jolla, this cycling venue brings yet another great workout option to men and women everywhere.”

The Cottage, at 7702 Fay Ave., is “a local powerhouse for gourmet breakfast and lunch fare that has been in La Jolla for many years,” according to Walker. He added the patio-oriented eatery offers “terrific service and a beautiful al fresco setting showcasing the great surroundings of the neighborhood.”

“Since we are a great neighborhood,” Cottage general manager Jason Peaslee said in an email, “We all really do know and support each other. We are growing, with the movie theater coming in and the La Jolla Music Society venue planned. Most of the business in our neighborhood are family run. We all take pride in that. Our little corner of the Village is special.”

Newly opened Piazza 1909, at 7731 Fay Ave., whose owner is from Milano, features Italian cuisine...
Let’s face it. Today’s world has become pretty impersonal—automated tellers, voice mail systems, warehouse stores. Convenient, yes, but sometimes don’t you wish you could talk to a real person who cared? Now consider something very personal—your home. Gregg Whitney knows that when it comes to buying or selling one, no two person’s needs or goals are exactly the same. That’s why he never tries to fit you into a mold or use a cookie-cutter approach when what you need is a personalized plan. He believes that each home, like each person, has its own unique mark. And whether he’s helping you find the perfect home or finding the right buyer for your sale, his personal touch gets the best results. Call him today for a no-obligation real estate consultation. You’ll be glad you did.

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www.BillionairesRowLaJolla.com
Construction and closure began June 1 on a much-needed renovation/restoration of the YMCA Firehouse, 7877 Herschel Ave., to better suit the needs of La Jolla Village. The facility is expected to reopen later this year.

New amenities will include a center providing childcare while parents and guardians enjoy the two multipurpose studios for group exercise classes; shower facilities; a family wellness center with state-of-the-art cardio and strength equipment; and restoration of the historic façade.

“For more than 100 years, this building has supported community wellness in one capacity or another,” said Sue Hall, regional vice president of YMCA of San Diego County. “This renovation will enable us to continue that mission by offering more life-saving programs for the children, adults and seniors of today and generations to come.”

A gift has enabled the YMCA to begin construction; however, additional funding is needed to complete the project, with costs estimated at $1.5 million. Special recognition opportunities are available for gifts of $500 or more, and facility-naming opportunities are available for gifts of $25,000 and above.

Design of the current improvements and restoration of the structure are under the direction of local architect Trip Bennett, who specializes in adaptive renovation/restoration of historic structures. Bennett previously led the community effort to renovate the relocated Fire Station 13, completed in 2010.

A landmark of La Jolla’s historic district, Fire Station Company 13 was built in 1913, replacing a wooden firehouse built in 1913. The building was once a City Hall, a city jail and a fire station. In 1976, Fire Station 13 relocated, and the building remained unused for more than a decade.

In the mid-1980s, the La Jolla YMCA launched a capital campaign to renovate the building, turning it into a satellite branch. Since then, the YMCA Firehouse has grown to serve more than 4,300 people each year with a variety of wellness and youth development programs.

The City of San Diego’s historical resources board has designated the firehouse a historical landmark. It’s one of the few surviving structures of the original civic center, along with the post office and library.

The YMCA of San Diego County is the second largest Y in the nation, serving hundreds of thousands of San Diego County residents and employing more than 4,500 people.

A childcare center is among the amenities planned for the YMCA Firehouse, whose renovation began June 1. For more information on the project, or to make a donation, visit lajolla.ymca/firehouse or call 858.453.3481.
Owens ordered to trial in Fiesta Island mishap

A judge ordered Theresa Lynn Owens May 21 to stand trial on charges she struck six bicyclists on Fiesta Island while driving the wrong way and under the influence of methamphetamine.

Victims testified to San Diego Superior Court Judge Jeff Fraser about the suddeness of the Aug. 12, 2014, accident, when Owens’ car crashed into 10 bicyclists at 1000 Fiesta Island Road. Only the six most seriously injured victims were named in the charges.

Deputy District Attorney Jessica Coto said Owens, of San Diego, faces a maximum sentence of 18 years in prison if she is convicted. She is also accused of meth possession and with an unrelated driving under the influence charge in Clairemont on July 20, 2014. Juan Carlos Vinolo, 44, testified from a wheelchair and was the first witness in his pre-trial hearing. Owens is alleged to have caused him great bodily injury, as he is paralyzed from the chest down. The injury enhancement adds three years to any sentence.

THERESA LYNN OWENS

Logan Bass, 26, of Pacific Beach, testified Owens was driving at least 35 miles an hour around a curve. He said her car mirror struck his ribcage, adding that he flipped over his handlebars. He said he remembered seeing Vinolo on the car’s roof, saying he couldn’t feel his legs. Bass, who spent two nights in the hospital, said Owens was screaming and twitching and appeared to be in shock.

Ken Leipper testified the car struck him in the face and that he lost a tooth. Brandon Ewers testified he noticed the collision “flung me around” and that he noticed two bystanders take Owens out of the car to keep her from driving away.

San Diego police officer Maruisu Cas testified Owens told him she did a quick u-turn after the collision that morning to relieve back pain.

Cas said the sole cause of the accident was Owens’ traveling the wrong way on a one-way street between 30 and 35 miles an hour.

Karen Magnusen, a registered nurse at UCSD, testified Owens was combative toward staff and made threats while she was being treated after the incident. She added that Owens was restrained and administered anti-psychotic medication, which put her to sleep.

Magnusen said she found a powdery substance in a plastic pouch in a body cavity of Owens and gave it to a police officer. The drug was determined to be methamphetamine.

Fraser set an arraignment for Thursday, June 4. Owens has plead ed not guilty and remains in the Las Colinas Women’s Detention Facility on $100,000 bail. A jury on April 24 determined she was mentally competent to stand trial.

POOL » CONT. FROM PG. 1

restructure and improve the area. Improvement plans include widening the main walkway to a newly planned pedestrian walk of 11,610 square feet, with the addition of a secondary overlook. Also proposed is enhanced seating and new guides to pedestrian access through teardrop double-seating walls.

Right Choice Senior Living

Established in early 2008, Jean Brooks (UCSD Graduate with Master’s in Social Work and US Air Force Academy Graduate) had the desire to develop Assistance Living Care Homes and services for seniors that are a cut above the rest at far more competitive rates. Right Choice Senior Living has Residential Care Homes located in highly desirable neighborhoods close to UCSD, La Jolla, Pacific Beach, Clairemont (Mount Street Area) medical facilities and the beach. Come see us today before making your final Choice. Make the Right Choice Today. For more information call (619) 246-2003 or go to the website at rightchoiceseniorliving.org.

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Petersen is ordered to pay nearly $312,000 in restitution

A judge ordered Hans Petersen on May 22 to pay $311,836 in damages to Pacific Beach real estate agent Ron Fletcher and $8,581 to Steven Dowdy, his former neighbor, both of whom Petersen shot in 2013.

San Diego Superior Court Judge Leo Valentine Jr. sentenced Petersen, 51, of University City, to pay those amounts in a restitution hearing. On May 15, Valentine sentenced Petersen to two consecutive life terms plus 50 years for using a firearm in the Sept. 18, 2013 shootings at the victim’s homes in La Jolla.

Petersen was convicted March 18 of two counts of premeditated attempted murder, shooting into an occupied dwelling, burglary and exhibiting in a firearm in a threatening manner to a doctor returning to his La Jolla home after work.

Among the expenses for which Fletcher sought restitution are medical treatments, counseling and the loss of the digital DVR and computer equipment that were part of his security system, which was used as evidence in Petersen’s trial. Because Petersen could appeal his attempted murder convictions, that equipment cannot be returned to Fletcher.

Petersen was seen in the video breaking a large window with a rock and coming inside the home with a firearm. He knocked on the bathroom door and fired shots through the door before Fletcher opened it and was shot. Fletcher was hospitalized for about 20 days.

Among the Dewosky expenses that Valentine approved was $70,247 in security improvements to his home, including a dozen cameras, steel fencing, electrician and painting services, landscaping, glass replacement and locksmith services.

Neal Putnam

Two retail/office spaces for lease in PB

Two retail/office spaces for lease in PB

News

FRIDAY · JUNE 5, 2015
LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS

5

Two retail/office spaces for lease in PB

2465 Cas St. (Corner of Emberal)

Neve, commercial/office spaces at the SE corner of Cas Street and Emberal, directly across the street from PB post office. One space is 370 if includes large executive office, conference room, and storage/office, and separate office. other space is 520 sq ft. both spaces have large open showroom and smaller rear area for storage, assembly, office, etc. Great location, excellent identity, signage and visible parking. Pleasant environment with professional office image, corner unit with large windows. Separately metered. Flexible lease term. Great building on Cas Street.

Both spaces available for immediate occupancy.

Contact David Mannins at 619-981-9601 or david@sdccm.com

For more information:

954-393-9990

Mr. T's

Caminito St. and Emberal

For more information:

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Mr. T's

Caminito St. and Emberal

For more information:
LaCava announces council bid; Fourth fete canceled

By DAVE SCHWAB

Joe LaCava, currently La Jolla Community Planners Committee chair, announced his candidacy for the District 1 City Council seat to replace Sherri Lightner, who will be terming out in 2016. Meanwhile, Bird Rock Community Council chair Jacqueline Bell said the annual Beaumont Avenue Fourth of July Parade is cancelled this year because a replacement couldn’t be found for the organizer, who will be out of town.

Those were the highlights of Bird Rock Community Council’s June 2 monthly meeting, during which city public utilities representative Dave Akin also offered tips on water conservation. Lightner aide Allison Don told the group the state has mandated a 16 percent reduction in water usage for San Diego County to be achieved by Feb. 13, 2016 in response to the ongoing drought.

Council board member Barbara Dunbar noted Bird Rock’s Maintenance Assessment District has reduced its water consumption in irrigating landscaping medians by nearly 50 percent since 2013. In announcing his candidacy, LaCava said he chose to do it before the council because that was the community group where he got his start in public service.

Dempsey completes facelift at boutique shop venue

Dempsey Construction has completed an extensive renovation of La Plaza, a three-story, 38,860-square-foot luxury boutique shopping center at the corner of Girard Avenue and Wall Street in La Jolla’s retail corridor.

Dempsey worked with owner Davlyn Investments and architect Perkowski & Ruth to rebrand and reposition the asset, creating an upscale shopping environment. Exterior improvements include new entryways, a new elevator and clock tower element and redesigned storefronts with new railings, decks, exterior windows and finishes. Interior improvements include a redesign of the courtyard, creating open seating and gathering areas, tile mosaic flooring and customized lighting.

Dempsey developed and oversaw the demolition and construction program, reducing the disruption to pedestrian and vehicular traffic at a busy intersection, and lessened the impact on neighboring tenants in the area. The center includes a selection of boutique retailers, dining options and personal service.

San Diego-based Dempsey provides general contracting services to commercial property owners and commercial tenants. It was founded by professionals with resumes containing over 14 million square feet of construction improvements in the commercial sector. For more information, visit dempseyconstructioninc.com.

Tech-driven valet parking service available in San Diego

A San Francisco-based on-demand valet and car services company, whose spokesman has cited its need in La Jolla, now services San Diego’s Gaslamp Quarter, North Park and Little Italy neighborhoods.

ZIRX, started less than a year ago by technology veterans in the Silicon Valley, couples technology with customer service through a mobile app. With it, drivers indicate their current location and within minutes have a ZIRX agent arrive and valet park a car in a secure garage. Customers can then opt for gas, a car wash and other services via the app. When the owner is ready to leave, the car is delivered to a requested location.

On-demand valet parking will cost $15 per park or $2.99 for a monthly pass. The app is used in some of the nation’s most congested cities, such as San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle and Washington, D.C.

ZIRX will also be offering ZIRX Care, including oil changes, tire rotations, factory maintenance and additional services. The company has also led the industry in offering value-added services such as gas fill ups, electric vehicle charging and car washing. For more, see the company’s website at zirx.com.
Luxury and Leisure

5788 La Jolla Corona  La Jolla, CA 92037
Offered between $2,775,000 - $2,975,000 - 4bd/4ba - 3,245sqft
Alongside panoramic ocean views this distinguished split level home on a cul-de-sac is located a brief walk away from reputable Bird Rock beaches, shopping and dining. An open air concept combines the living room, dining area and gourmet kitchen to better enjoy the wide-ranging views of the ocean. Walking onto the large sun deck is to enjoy the amazing sea breeze and sunshine La Jolla treasures. The kitchen is adorned with granite counters, cherry wood finishes and Viking appliances- with an added breakfast space with lots of light- it is sure to impress. Retreat to the luxurious master suite with a private patio and en suite that is like a spa. Three large bedrooms and a large living area all open into a courtyard oasis which the lower level of the home is centered around.

5663 Chelsea - 3bd/2ba - Bird Rock
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that works with transitioning foster youth to help them lay solid foundations for their futures. It offers programs that help foster youth with financial support, college, employment opportunities and housing. The My First Home program helps in providing recipients with new furniture for their first homes, a big deal for foster kids. April echoed those remarks as she whizzed around on her new rolling office chair.

“This is brand new everything; it’s so cool,” April said. “Being in foster care basically all my life, you get hand-me-downs, which is — not complaining. I’m very grateful for everything that’s come to me, but being able to get new stuff is really cool.”

Kendall, project manager and a senior this year at La Jolla Country Day, saw what previous classes did with Just in Time and thought it would be a great community service project. “I didn’t really know what I was getting into,” Kendall said. “but we [Kendall and Susan Nordenger, community service director at Country Day] went over to the Just in Time headquarters, and I just fell in love with what they were doing there.”

Having pitched her idea to the community service board, students decided they wanted to fund not just one recipient, like they did a couple years back, but two.

The seniors raised about $3,400, more than enough to fund two foster kids (Just in Time recommends $1,500 per My First Home recipient). They conducted fundraisers throughout the year to reach their goal, the most successful being a “Kiss a Pig” event.

“It’s crazy to think that they did all these fundraisers for it and stuff like that; it was so awesome,” said Susana, second recipient of the school’s efforts.

April and Susana purchased similar furniture pieces during their shopping sprees; tables and chairs, furniture Nordenger says can be taken for granted.

Nordenger also says this is an important project for the seniors because they are soon to be experiencing the same process — going to college, buying and furnishing their first home — as their parents. “Our kids sort of take it for granted,” she says, “that they’ll have parents who help them and parents who get them what they need.”

Such was not the case for Melissa Gutierrez, a former recipient of Just in Time programs, who at 18 was told by her foster parents she had to leave. She now works at Just in Time as a volunteer coordinator, and she stressed how important an organization like Just in Time is in the foster care community. “Transitioning youth,” she says, “tend to be that forgotten population. There are 300 foster youth aging out of the system each year in San Diego alone. Oftentimes, those youth don’t have the typical connections of family and networks that everyone else has been building for 18 years. What we [Just in Time] try and do is help show them that there is so much more out there and there are people who really care and want to help them get to where they want to go.”

The efforts of Just in Time and the Country Day seniors have ensured that both April, entering her second year of college, and Susana, a recent high school graduate, have a place to call home, adults to turn to and solid foundations for their futures.

Next year’s seniors at Country Day plan on continuing with the My First Home project and have big goals for next year. “They want to raise enough money to sponsor three kids,” said Nordenger.

Tricia Warrens is a junior at High Tech High and a spring intern at San Diego Community Newspaper Group.
---YMCA offers three "Intentionally Awesome" Camps

Three "Intentionally Awesome" properties in San Diego County, one in the mountains for summer adventures, one exclusively for horseback riding near Julian CA and one on the Pacific Ocean. Enjoy the overnight camp experience year round at YMCA Camp Marston, YMCA.

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“Nike Golf Schools & Jr. Camps offer a variety of programs designed to meet the needs of each camper. Every facet of the game is covered during morning instruction and afternoon course play. Beginning, intermediate and advanced players can immerse themselves in the sport for an entire week. Upon arrival, all participants are evaluated by the directors and staff and placed in a program that addresses their own instructional needs. Our collection of camp directors includes some of the finest professionals and college coaches this country has to offer. They are joined on staff by other teaching and touring professionals, college assistant coaches, renowned high school coaches and former/current college players who serve as camp counselors. Enroll in Nike Golf Camp today! 1-800-NIKE CAMP or visit ussportscamps.com

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The mission of Nike Rugby Camps is to provide rugby education to young athletes and engender confidence and self-esteem on and off the rugby pitch. Participants have the opportunity to experience camp life by staying at some of the most prominent athletic universities in the country and we are dedicated to providing our campers with one-on-one and group coaching from top college coaches and current members of USA Rugby. All aspects of the game are addressed during drilling, live scrimmaging, and staff demonstrations to ensure each athlete leaves with a greater confidence and passion for the sport. View us at www.ussportscamps.com/rugby.

Yamaha Camp: Where kids learn, grow and thrive!

The YMCA provides a creative camp environment where kids will develop friendships with peers, enjoy a sense of accomplishment through trying new things, and create a sense of belonging. Each day at camp is filled with new and exciting opportunities to learn, grow and have fun! Campers will enjoy a sense of accomplishment as they climb a little higher, laugh a little louder, and share stories of their successes. Join us at camp for a summer to remember! www.lajolla.ymca.org or peninsula.ymca.org.

Nike Rugby Camps

The mission of Nike Rugby Camps is to provide rugby education to young athletes and engender confidence and self-esteem on and off the rugby pitch. Participants have the opportunity to experience camp life by staying at some of the most prominent athletic universities in the country and we are dedicated to providing our campers with one-on-one and group coaching from top college coaches and current members of USA Rugby. All aspects of the game are addressed during drilling, live scrimmaging, and staff demonstrations to ensure each athlete leaves with a greater confidence and passion for the sport. View us at www.ussportscamps.com/rugby.

Bye-Bye Video Games, Hello Surf!

Time to get outside and surf with other local kids at San Diego’s energetic, safe, and professional surf school. A 3:1 ratio guarantees surfers will be up on the board surfing the friendly waves at Law Street in North Pacific Beach in no time! Photography, pizza, snacks, and all surf equipment are all provided for a memorable surfing experience. Soon surfers will be asking the next time they can go to the beach to surf! $20 Off Any Summer Camp: SDNEWZ15. (Half Day, Week-long, 3 Day, Full Day) Reservations made easy over the phone, in person, email, or online: 858.205.7683.

Kids experience performing arts at Jr Theatre Camp

Join Junior Theatre this summer and experience the wonderful world of Performing Arts where campers will take classes in acting, dance, & singing. Traditional, Performance and Advanced camps available in Balboa Park, Junior Theatre also provides K-4 camps at La Jolla Country Day School, Camps run June 8-September 4. To register or for a list of camp dates, descriptions & pricing visit juniortheatre.com or call (619) 239-1311.

COURTESY PHOTO

FASHIONABLE TRENDS

It’s almost summer – so can love triangles be far behind? At least one is about to unfold, with the field of fashion its main character, in “Ay José,” one of the installments in the sixth annual La Jolla International Fashion Film Festival, set for Friday and Saturday, July 24 and 25. The festival, dubbed the Cannes of fashion-based cinema, celebrates films and characters built around the clothing design industry, which commands nearly $180 billion in sales and manufacture per year. We’ll have a preview piece July 17 on the 2015 activities and the drivers behind the festival’s enormous growth during years one through five.

COURTESY PHOTO

San Diego Junior Theatre SUMMER CAMPS

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• Half-Day Creative Play Camp, PreK-K
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• Camp Hours: 9am-3pm
• Camps run June 8-September 4
• Performance and Dance camps
• Advanced Acting and Musical Theatre camps for high-school students

La Jolla Country Day School

• 2-week sessions for grades K - 4
• Camp hours: 8am-12pm
• Camps run June 15 - July 24

All students who are 8 years old and enrolled in 2 weeks of camp at either location may audition for our Balboa Park summer shows: Charlotte’s Web and All Shook Up.
Cocktails and Couture: Good fashion for a good cause

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN

This year's San Diego County Fair brings you the world

It wouldn't be long until similar advances would sweep the nation – but for now, President Woodrow Wilson stood as one of the very few to lay with his funny little toy. It came in the form of a button he'd push from home on Jan. 1, 1915, opening the gates at San Diego's new Balboa Park and its Panama-California Exposition nearly 3,000 miles away. The exposition would last a mere two years, but the science behind Wilson's fascination would help fuel technological progress the world hadn't seen before or since.

In fact, this year's San Diego County Fair, running today through July 5 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, is all in for such landmark moments. It's titled "A Fair to Remember," in keeping with the Balboa exposition's centennial and specifically, the phenomenon that is the world's fair.

The X-ray machine, which came out of the 1901 global expo in Buffalo; the Ferris wheel, a product of the 1893 Chicago gala the telephone, making its public debut at Philadelphia's Centennial Exposition in 1876, followed in New York in 1964 by the first video call (which I saw for myself at age 14); explosions in design, electronic media and the arts on display at Expo 2000 in Hannover, Germany: This year's county fair is loony with exhibits on these and many more inventions, which the world's gotten together to brag about since the first global expo in the London of 1851 (the current installment opened May 1 and will run until the end of October).

In fact, the Panama-California exhibit, originally planned in celebration of the opening of the Panama Canal three years earlier, may have been on its way to world's fair status if politics hadn't intervened (San Francisco, with its greater population and deeper pockets, saw its Panama-Pacific International Exposition as the "official" nod to the canal and persuaded the public accordingly). No matter. This year's county fair will note the exhibit's centennial accordingly: thankyouverymuch, with a look at the expo buildings still standing after 100 years (such as the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, the California Tower and Dome and the Botanical Building).

The (un)usual slate of events and activities (the horse show, the bridal expo, the pie-eating contest, the pig race, Cocktails and Couture: Good fashion for a good cause the scores of music acts) are on tap and pining to entice -- and the Asian Festival, a celebration of Asian and Pacific Island cultures, joins the roster for the first time on Sunday, June 14 (ditto the San Diego Spirit & Cocktail Festival on Saturday, June 27).

You and the 1.4 million expected visitors can find the rest at sdfair.com.

Kindly be advised that there's something for every taste, real or potential, as the fair has grown exponentially since its Del Mar beginnings in 1946 (the first events can actually be traced county-wide to 1880!).

But that's what world's fairs are for -- and while the San Diego County Fair doesn't quite fall into that category, its massive celebration of global progress gets it pretty darn close.

The Westgate Hotel presented its Cocktails and Couture program on May 15, featuring the Lizz Russell Collection. The theme for this annual fashion show was Embrace Your Style, and blogger at DianaCavagnaro.com. May is GBS/CIDP awareness month and coincided with this annual award for her courage during her trials with Guillain-Barré Syndrome and her ability to inspire others.

The Lizz Russell Collection was shown in the Westgate's Versailles Room. Special guest models enlivened the runway, including La Jolla's Margo Schwab and Kima, her canine partner. Schwab is the empress of pop. For tickets, visit gbs-cidp.org.

Inez Odom, “Smiling on the Inside,” is this year's San Diego County Fair's Miss America. May is GBS/CIDP awareness month and coincided with this annual award for her courage during her trials with Guillain-Barré Syndrome and her ability to inspire others.

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The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego’s La Jolla campus proudly presents “Dear Nemesis,” a 120-piece installment of the work of American artist Nicole Eisenman, through Sunday, Sept. 6. The show’s PR lore says that Eisenman’s core subjects are community, identity and sexuality — and “Sloppy Bar-Room Kiss,” reflected below, is a whimsical, fascinating depiction of all three.

You won’t see this image depicted next door in real life, because the museum isn’t the dive business. It is, however, the anchor venue for the Museum Café, a hidden gem of a beachside European bistro designed to complement your artist’s eye with your gourmet’s sense of food. That’s especially noteworthy if your taste runs toward the fresh — the dishes are the products of several area organic farmers, all art experts in their own rights. The staff tips the same hand in tiny, unexpected ways; the shakers are full of sea salt, which contains none of the trace minerals you find in the regular table stuff.

Lots of places in the Village tout the legendary La Jolla Cove view, and this venue is no exception — but there’s also something intriguing about seaside funk, a perfectly good description for this little venue’s physical design. Meanwhile, some of the best food in town awaits, in the form of the five-egg Power Omelet, the generous smoked salmon entry and the butter-nut squash panini (this one’s presentation is as good as the ingredients). Everything here makes an absolutely delightful complement to your art museum outing amid the hand of experience (the restaurant is owned by Giuseppe Restaurants & Fine Catering, proprietor at La Jolla’s Caroline’s Seaside Café and at three other restaurants in downtown San Diego).

Oh — the chocolate-chip pancakes. Chocolate and pancakes sounds like one of those insane pairs that can’t possibly work, like bologna and peanut butter or cottage cheese and ketchup or white wine and Kettle-Korn. The fact is that the latter three are surprisingly good, as is this creamy breakfast choice. (Chocolate chips and ketchup — now, that’s another story, and the café wisely doesn’t press its luck accordingly).

The couple in the painting look a little worse for wear and probably won’t be joining you for breakfast or lunch at the Museum Café. That’s where you have a distinct advantage. You get to leave the museum’s great art where it belongs one minute and whet a very different palate the next.

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Where: 700 Prospect St., inside MCASD
When: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. daily
Info: (858) 456-6427, mcasdcafe.com

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Richard Walker’s Pancake House
Best Breakfast Restaurant in San Diego by USA TODAY’S 10 BEST
Review highlights - Richard Walker’s Pancake House, located in downtown San Diego near the Convention Center and in La Jolla, has received numerous local accolades for their breakfasts overall, with high praise for the pancakes, as the name might suggest. The baked apple pancake is legendary, featuring a heaping pile of baked Granny Smith apples topped with a Saigon cinnamon glaze. Also available are traditional pancakes, omelets, waffles, crepes and more. Portions are big, service is prompt, and the gourmet drip coffee is a hit with patrons.

The Broken Yolk Café
The Broken Yolk Café offers a large selection of home cooked meals in a comfortable and casual atmosphere. There are more than 20 different omelets to choose from, as well as a wide variety of other breakfast favorites which include pancakes, waffles and french toast. Feel more like lunch? Try one of our juicy half-pound burgers or one of our large sandwiches.

Donovan’s
Donovan’s sets the standard of fine dining excellence. A classic steakhouse. A stylish, lively atmosphere. Cordially friendly. We like to think of Donovan’s as your own special place. A place where you can celebrate with friends, family and associates. donovanssteakhouse.com.

FRESH IDEAS
Bernini’s Bistro recently hosted a special wine dinner, featuring new menu items prepared by new executive chef Mario Medina. Originally from Mexico City, Mario has worked and learned in some of the finer kitchens on the West Coast and quickly fueled Bernini’s established reputation for great food and hospitality. Bernini’s is located at 7550 Fay Ave.; the phone is (858) 454-5013, or visit allmenus.com.

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DONOVAN’S
STEAK & CHOP HOUSE

Bernini’s
COURTESY PHOTO

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Free Event Every Saturday in July and August in Old Town

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is celebrating travel and transportation in the era of real horsepower during “Stagecoach Days,” kicking off on July 11. Come join in the old-fashioned fun from the mid-1800s from noon to 4 p.m. on seven Saturdays in July and August.

Sponsored by Fiesta de Reyes and Boosters of Old Town, the free event features a different theme each Saturday such as Days of the Vaqueros, Women of the West, Soldiers and Citizens, Twain-Fest and Taste of the Past. Attendees will enjoy afternoons filled with activities that reflect life in early San Diego and celebrate the West on the move. Through living history activities and demonstrations, stories and songs, visitors will gain an appreciation for early modes of transportation and daily life. All activities are geared toward children and adults of all ages.

“This year’s Stagecoach Days will be the best in our park’s history,” stated Event Coordinator Gregg Giacopuzzi. “We have added many more family-friendly activities to the event this year so visitors will get a true taste of what Old Town was like in the 1800s.”

The Stagecoach Days schedule is as follows.

July 11 - “Taste of the Past” - What we eat, how we acquire it, who prepares it, how it is prepared are part of our cultural make up. This day will explore what was part of the dining experiences for people in early San Diego. While you learn about the foods of the past you will be able to sample modern tastes that evoke that time provided by the food purveyors in the park. There is a small fee to partake in the food tastings throughout the park this day.

July 18 - “Women of the West” - Women played an important part in the development of the West. Some of their daily activities will be demonstrated on this Saturday. One of the highlights of the day will be a quilt walk that features quilts celebrating the 150th anniversary of California State Parks.

July 25 - “Days of the Vaquero” - Vaqueros were the first cowboys in California. Highly skilled horsemen and cattle herders, they were an integral part of the early cattle trade in California. The day will celebrate their natural horsemanship techniques and other aspects of California culture.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, with the support of Boosters of Old Town and Fiesta de Reyes, is proud to offer these free activities for adults and children of all ages. The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Twiggs Street in San Diego, and is conveniently located next to the Old Town Transit Center, with Coaster, Trolley, and MTS bus service. Free parking is available at the CalTrans headquarters, just two blocks from the park at 4050 Taylor St.

For more information, go to www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego.

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Stagecoach Days: Celebrating the Wild West in San Diego

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Tuesday - Corkage Free Tuesdays
Wednesday - Organic Wednesdays

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17th Secret Garden Tour as memorable as the first

By LINDA MARRONE

It’s hard to believe the Secret Garden Tour, which took place May 16, has been running 17 years, since it seems like only yesterday my friend Susan Vandendriess and I and a small group of volunteers started the tour. An annual event that benefits the La Jolla Historical Society, the tour has featured many memorable La Jolla sites ranging from intimate cottage gardens to grand estates.

This year’s tour, which raised $70,000 to support the Society’s free exhibitions, low-cost educational programs, archival research access for the public and community activities, was once again a showcase of picture perfect gardens, including terraced gardens with ocean vistas at both a 1929 historically designated Spanish Colonial home in Upper Hermosa and in the Olde Muirlands on 1.21 acres.

The Olde Muirlands home showed how contemporary design can artfully merge with classic architecture. A vegetable garden at the Children’s School taught us how the children are learning about farm-to-table eating by growing their own vegetables and helping to protect our environment. All the gardens featured artists painting garden scenes, designers’ displays for outdoor entertaining that complemented each garden and live music from a variety of musicians.

The Platinum Tour, which features brunch before the event and shuttles you to the garden locations, also offered guests a view of a special garden open to Platinum Tour guests only. This year, a naturalistic garden perched on a canyon overlooking the ocean was the main attraction. Besides the breathtaking views, an outdoor amphitheater that has hosted Shakespearean and musical events over the years is a hallmark. The canyon itself has a 12,000-year-old path used by the Kumeyaay Indians to reach the beach below – quite a historical element.

Kudos to Sharlyn Gallison, who chaired the event for the past two years, as well as to the dedicated committee who organized every detail and the volunteers who stood guard during the tour to ensure everyone’s safety. WELL DONE!

Meanwhile, the Garden Boutique, created by Vandendriess and designed to raise more funds for the La Jolla Historical Society, takes place at Wisteria Cottage.

Plans for next year’s tour are already in the works, and we are always looking for gardens to feature. If you know of a garden or have one you would like to share, we would love to hear from you. Call me, Linda Marrone, (858) 459-4173; email lmarrone@san.rr.com or call the Society at (858) 459-5335.

Linda Marrone is a Realtor with Coldwell Banker in La Jolla. Pictures of her garden have appeared in local and national magazines.

Anti-cancer Relay for Life scheduled for June 13, 14

Some 14 teams involving about 130 participants will rally at Relay for Life of La Jolla, a fundraiser to benefit anti-cancer research, on Saturday and Sunday, June 13 and 14, beginning at 9 a.m. the 13th and proceeding for 24 hours on the Muirlands Middle School baseball field, 1056 Nautilus St.

Teams of eight to 20 members take turns walking the track that surrounds the field, ideally with at least one member of a given team on the track. Teams are also assigned campusites to set up tables and chairs from which to watch the entertainment. The program includes guest speakers and memorial luminaria bags, a slideshow and a memorial lap.

Crecue du Relay, the event’s carnival, will feature face painting, cotton candy, popcorn, Kona Ice La Jolla shaved ice, a photo booth, lap beads, DNA-strand necklaces, a prize wheel and food fundraisers, including pulled pork sandwiches, brisket, midnight pasta and a pancake breakfast on June 14. Chipotle in La Jolla Village Square will donate burritos for the event’s survivor lunch, and Brick and Bell is donating coffee and mini-scones. The Cottage is donating coffee cake.

The 130 participants have so far raised more than $30,000. Officials are looking for committee members and encourage interested parties to contact them at (619) 888-4409.

The American Cancer Society says it saves 400 lives a day amid modern anti-cancer treatments.

Relay for Life is the world’s largest fundraising event in the interest of bringing an end to cancer. It recognizes people and communities worldwide in remembering lost loved ones and taking action to finish the fight.

MUSTHEAR>>

Individually, blues guitarist Robin Henkel and singer Whitney Shay are formidable forces, headliners in their own rights. The 2015 participants have so far raised more than $30,000. Officials are looking for committee members and encourage interested parties to contact them at (619) 888-4409.

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Revenue ops missed at airport, audits say

A city auditor’s office report says San Diego should update plans and goals for its airports division, which operates the Brown Field and Montgomery Field general aviation airports.

In its 4-page report, the office said the airports offer significant potential for development but that city officials have not seized on the chance to maximize the revenue, improve facilities or create a long-range plan for the facilities.

The report criticized the real estate assets department for missing opportunities and having insufficient over site of $28 of Brown Field, May Mesa, and Montgomery Field, in Kearny Mesa.

The airports division doesn’t have a master list of renters, the report says, and many airport leases are in holdover status. Lease revenues have not increased with the local market or have errors; maintenance and inspections of leased areas are inconsistent; and various fees have not been reviewed and adjusted as called for by city policy.

Airport leases include individual aircraft owners, flight school and fixed-base operators, which provide fuel, maintenance and storage facilities, among other things.

The auditors discovered that more Montgomery Field revenue is derived from non-aviation sources, including a hotel, restaurant, business park, office space and the U.S. Border Patrol.

The auditors said Montgomery Field earned $3.7 million in revenue in Fiscal Year 2014, while the facility brought in $1 million from aviation leasing, nearly $1.6 million came from non-aviation leasing.

Brown Field generated more than $932,600 in the same period, with $374,000 from aviation leasing, and $263,000 from commercial leasing.

The report recommended that the Airports Division determine the costs and a timeline for updating airport planning documents, develop an annual planning document that sets short-term and long-range goals for development and revenue; and review, update and develop policies and procedures that govern department operations.

Management for the division agreed with all three recommendations.

– City News Service
The yucky parts of getting older

By Natasha Josefowitz, Ph.D.

I have just noticed that I have become more cautious. I used to not really notice curbs — I would naturally walk off and on — now, I am aware: There is a curb, I must step carefully. I never noticed uneven pavement: now, I walk with my eyes down, looking for slight irregularities where my foot could get caught. I don’t like movie theaters where you have to walk up a lot of steps in the dark without a ramp. I don’t feel too sturdy.

When I drove, if I knew I was going to drive a long distance, I would get my employee parking pass — now, I rarely get out of the city. I have to look at my day’s schedule several times, and even then I can forget to go somewhere, because I was involved with something else at the time. I have to write down not only the place I am going, but also the time. I never thought of where I am going. I never thought of what we have always known we could be.

Doing it Better

By Natasha Josefowitz, Ph.D.

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